



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

Office of Public Affairs  
Region 5  
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Illinois, Indiana  
Michigan, Minnesota  
Ohio, Wisconsin

# Skinner Landfill Cleanup Completed

West Chester, Ohio

February 2002

## Layered Cap, Slurry Wall, Trenches Included in Final Cleanup

The Skinner Landfill cleanup has been completed. To do this, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency worked from April 2001 through February 2002 to install.

- a layered cap over the existing landfill to stop rain, snow and other water from seeping into the landfill, carrying contaminants to the ground water below. The cap consists of a 6 to 12 inch-layer of compacted soil directly on top of the waste; a geo-composite layer above the compacted soil (made of stiff plastic netting sandwiched between two layers of a burlap-like fabric); a manufactured clay-like barrier liner; a layer of thick plastic; another geo-composite layer; and a layer of approximately 24 inches of topsoil and grass.
- a slurry wall south of the landfill. The slurry wall is a solid clay underground barrier built to prevent ground water from draining toward the East Fork of Mill Creek.
- three interceptor trenches north of the slurry wall to collect the ground water and prevent it from entering the East Fork. Three pumps in the trenches will be used to pump collected ground water to the Butler County Sewer System.
- vents on top of the landfill to collect and release gases created by the natural decay of organic material found in the landfill.
- a drainage system around the landfill to direct surface water runoff to the East Fork.



*Drums and debris strewn throughout the Skinner Landfill were removed as part of the cleanup activities.*

Although the cleanup began last spring, work that disturbed the landfill waste and soil were done primarily during the summer to avoid exposing students from nearby Union Elementary School to contaminants. During all excavation and earth-moving operations, the air surrounding the landfill was continuously monitored. This included taking air samples downwind of the work area and near the school. Ohio EPA closely monitored the work which was done by several companies determined to be potentially responsible for the contamination (referred to as PRPs). A township representative was also involved in overseeing the cleanup.

## Ground-Water Monitoring to Continue

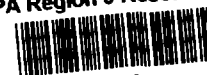
Monitoring wells to continue ground-water testing were installed throughout the landfill. The ground water will be monitored by the PRPs until 2031 to ensure that the landfill cap, trenches and slurry wall remain in working order. Ground-water samples will be collected and analyzed quarterly by the PRPs in 2002 and 2003. After 2003, samples will be taken once or twice each year.

A high water level within the landfill may increase the likelihood of contaminated ground water escaping past the slurry wall toward the East Fork. Therefore, if after two years, the ground-water level remains above the



*A layer of topsoil and grass now covers the landfill.*

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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waste, a second slurry wall north of the landfill will be required. The concern is that if water is getting into the landfill from the ground water beneath the landfill on the north end, it could carry more contamination south toward the slurry wall. However, if the ground-water level in the landfill has dropped below the bottom of the waste material by 2004, the additional slurry wall will not be necessary.

### Information Repositories

Review detailed information about the Skinner Landfill Superfund Site at the information repositories:

West Chester Public Library  
7900 Cox Rd.  
West Chester, Ohio

West Chester Township  
9100 Centre Point Dr.  
Suite 280  
West Chester, Ohio

### Contact Information

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### Web Site

This and additional updates can also be found on the following Web site:

[www.epa.gov/region5/sites/](http://www.epa.gov/region5/sites/)

Scroll through the list to find Skinner Landfill Superfund Site.

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